

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 07324 201637Z

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AF-08 ARA-06 NEA-10

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /115 W

----- 100948

R 201654Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2438

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 7324

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO, ELAB, SZ

SUBJ: ILO CONSULTATIONS

SUMMARY: USREPRESENTATIVE TO ILO HOROWITZ MET WITH  
EC-9 REPRESENTATIVES SEPTEMBER 13 AND IMEC DELEGATIONS  
SEPTEMBER 14 TO REVIEW ILO DEVELOPMENTS AND PROSPECTS.  
THE DISCUSSIONS CONCENTRATED UPON THE DECISION TO  
SEAT THE PLO AS AN OBSERVER IN THE WORLD EMPLOYMENT  
CONFERENCE, THE ROLE PLAYED BY THE ILO SECRETARIAT,  
AND THE OUTCOME OF THE WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE.  
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 07324 201637Z

THE IMEC FORUM WAS ASSESSED APPROVINGLY, BUT QUESTIONS

OF ITS FUTURE COMPOSITION AND CHAIRMANSHIP WERE DEFERRED.  
END SUMMARY.

1. US-EC-9 CONSULTATIONS ON ILO WENT THROUGH THE FULL DAY OF SEPTEMBER 13 WITH HOROWITZ REPRESENTING THE US SIDE. ESSENTIALLY THE SAME SUBJECT MATTER WAS THEN COVERED IN A BROADER IMEC CONSULTATION ON THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 14. WHILE ONLY THE UK HAD REPRESENTATION FROM A CAPITAL (NIGEL FORWARD), MISSION PARTICIPANTS HAD EXPERIENCED THE JUNE CONFERENCES AND WERE PREPARED ON THE ISSUES. HOROWITZ PRESENTED BOTH CONSULTATIVE GROUPS WITH A RUN-DOWN OF THE US ASSESSMENT OF THESE CONFERENCES AND OF FORTHCOMING ILO MEETINGS AS A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION. CONSIDERATION OF THE MARITIME CONFERENCE PRESIDENCY HAS BEEN REPORTED SEPARATELY.

2. THE EXCHANGES SHOWED BROAD AREAS OF AGREEMENT BUT SERVED ALSO TO IDENTIFY DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN US PERCEPTIONS AND THOSE OF OTHERS, AND THE DIFFERENCES REFLECTED IN THE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE EC-9 WERE SEEN AGAIN IN THE IMEC CONSULTATION. THESE WERE PRINCIPALLY THE FOLLOWING:

(A) WHILE HOROWITZ EXPLAINED THAT THE US REGARDED THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNING BOARD IN REOPENING CONSIDERATION OF THE QUESTION OF PLO PARTICIPATION IN THE WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE TO HAVE BEEN A BENDING OF THE RULES, OTHERS IN VARYING DEGREES POINTED INSTEAD TO THE MORE EGREGIOUS VIOLATION OF PROCEDURE WHICH THEY BELIEVED INEVITABLY WOULD HAVE OCCURRED IF THE GOVERNING BODY HAD NOT ACTED AND THE CONFERENCE IN PLENARY HAD USURPED THE AUTHORITY TO CHANGE THE STANDING ORDERS. THUS, WHILE THE US SAW THE INCIDENT AS A DEPARTURE FROM CORRECT PROCEDURE, THE SPOKESMAN FOR THIS POINT OF VIEW REGARDED IT AS THE PRESERVATION OF A MORE IMPORTANT PRINCIPAL.

(B) HOROWITZ ELABORATED UPON THE UNDUE INVOLVEMENT OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL AND SECRETARIAT PERSONALITIES IN THE CONDUCT OF THE TWO CONFERENCES, AS PERCEIVED  
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PAGE 03 GENEVA 07324 201637Z

FROM THE US SIDE, WHEREAS EUROPEAN SPOKESMAN (BELGIUM, UK, FRANCE AND IRELAND ESPECIALLY) DID NOT FEEL THIS TO HAVE BEEN THE CASE. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT IT WAS DESIRABLE IN ANY EVENT TO MINIMIZE THE ATTENTION NOW TO BE GIVEN TO PAST PRACTICES OF INDIVIDUALS IN THE SECRETARIAT.

(C) THE EUROPEANS GENERALLY WERE MORE COMFORTABLE WITH

THE OUTCOME OF THE WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE AND THE REFORMULATION OF THE BASIC NEEDS STRATEGY THAN IS THE US.

3. BOTH SETS OF CONSULTATIONS ATTRIBUTED THE RELATIVELY GOOD OUTCOME OF BOTH CONFERENCES TO THE QUALITY OF COOPERATION AMONG THE IMEC COUNTRIES, AND STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE CONTINUATION OF THIS FORUM. IT IS AGREED THAT IT WAS NEITHER TIMELY NOR USEFUL TO TRY TO REACH A MORE PRECISE CRITERION FOR IMEC PARTICIPATION NOR TO ALTER THE PRACTICE OF CANADIAN CHAIRMANSHIP, BUT BOTH QUESTIONS WERE LEFT OPEN. ALL SHARED AN AVERSION TO ANY ILLUSION OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A BLOC, AND THE IMEC COORDINATION WAS DESCRIBED APPROVINGLY FROM THE US SIDE AS A "POINT OF ATTRACTION" FOR THE LDC'S.

4. THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT DIVERGENCES IN ASSESSING THE ISSUES LIKELY TO ARISE AT THE NEXT GOVERNING BODY MEETINGS, ALTHOUGH OUR INTERLOCUTORS SAW NEED FOR FURTHER CONSULTATION ON THESE. ON EIGHT OCCASIONS DURING THE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE EC-9 THE EUROPEAN SPOKESMAN (BELGIUM) AND OTHERS REVERTED TO THE DESIRE FOR FURTHER "EXPERT" CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN MISSIONS IN GENEVA. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS WERE, HOWEVER, LEFT OPEN. CATTO

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**TAGS:** ELAB, SZ, ILO, EC 9, (HOROWITZ)  
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**Type:** TE  
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